DARK HORSE COMICS
AVATAR: THE LAST AIRBENDER
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AVATAR
THE LAST AIRBENDER
FREE COMIC BOOK DAY

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降妖神通 AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™

Water. Earth. Fire. Air. Only the Avatar can master all four elements, and stop the ruthless Fire Nation from conquering the world. But when the world needed him most, he disappeared. And he's been gone for a hundred years, until now . . .

A young Waterbender named Katara and her brother Sokka rescue a strange twelve-year-old boy named Aang, who's been trapped inside an iceberg at the South Pole. Not only is Aang an Airbender—a race of people no one has seen in a century—he's also the long-lost Avatar! Now Katara and Sokka must help Aang master all four elements so he can face his destiny and save the world!

RELICS

Aang, Katara, and Sokka head to the North Pole, hoping to find a Waterbending teacher for Aang. On the way, they stop by a town to buy supplies, and Aang discovers that other Airbenders might live nearby! But he's not the only one looking for lost Airbenders in these mountains. The Fire Nation is hunting them too!

story and art by JOHANE MATTE • *colors by* HYE JUNG KIM • *letters by* COMICRAFT

DIRTY IS ONLY SKIN DEEP

Many adventures later, Aang, Katara, and Sokka finally find Aang an Earthbending teacher: a young blind girl named Toph. But as they start to travel together, it becomes clear that Toph's stubbornness is as solid as the rocks she loves to bend!

story by J. TORRES • *art and colors by* GURIHIRU • *letters by* COMICRAFT

cover art by BRYAN KONIETZKO, HYE JUNG KIM, AND BRYAN EVANS
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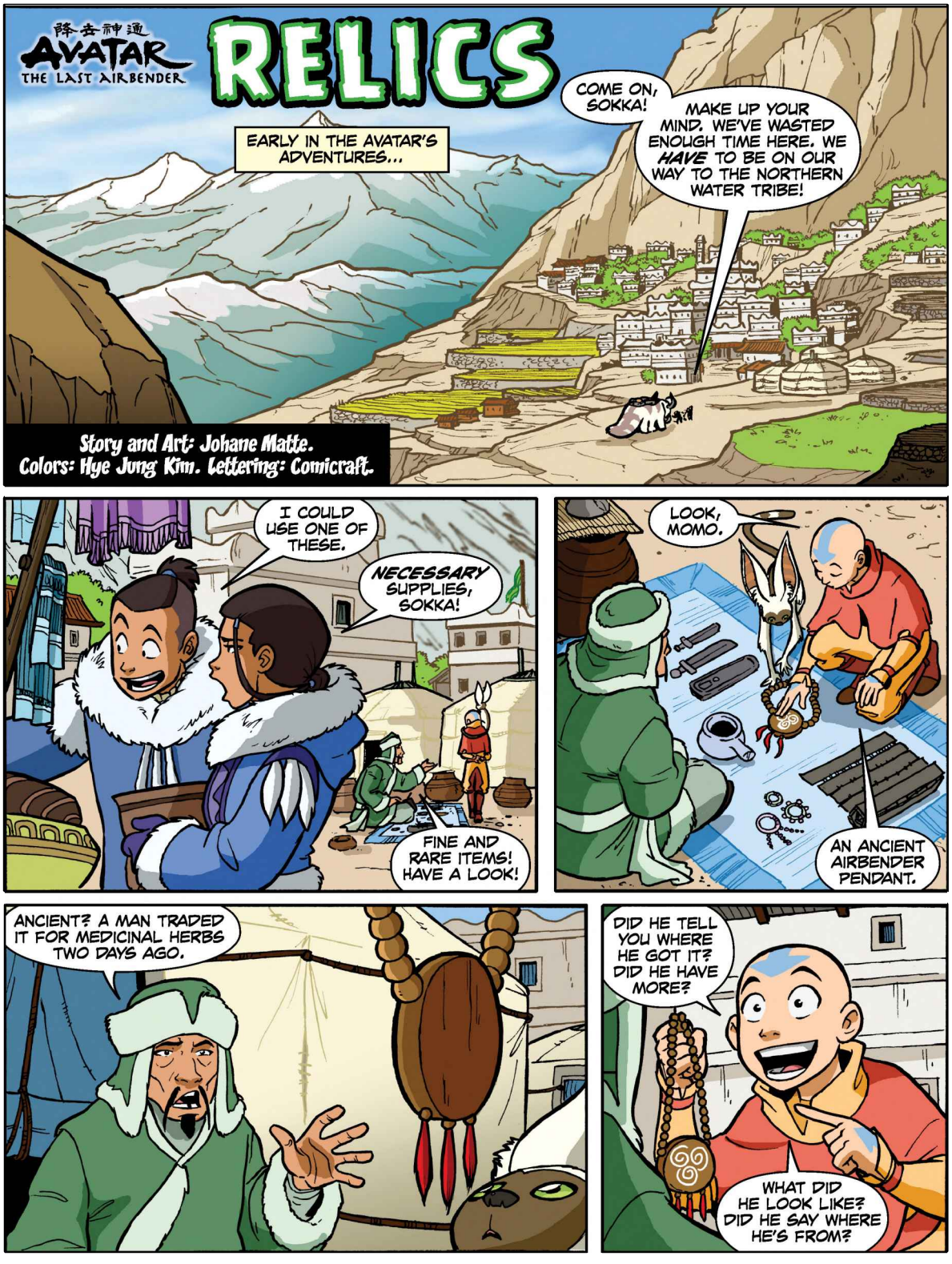
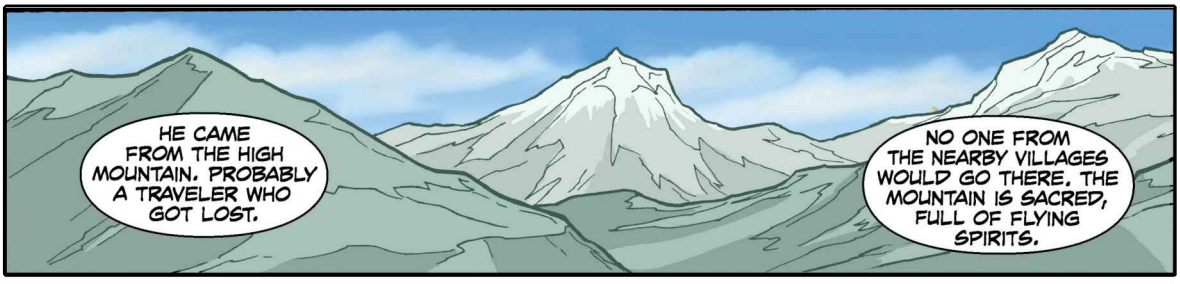
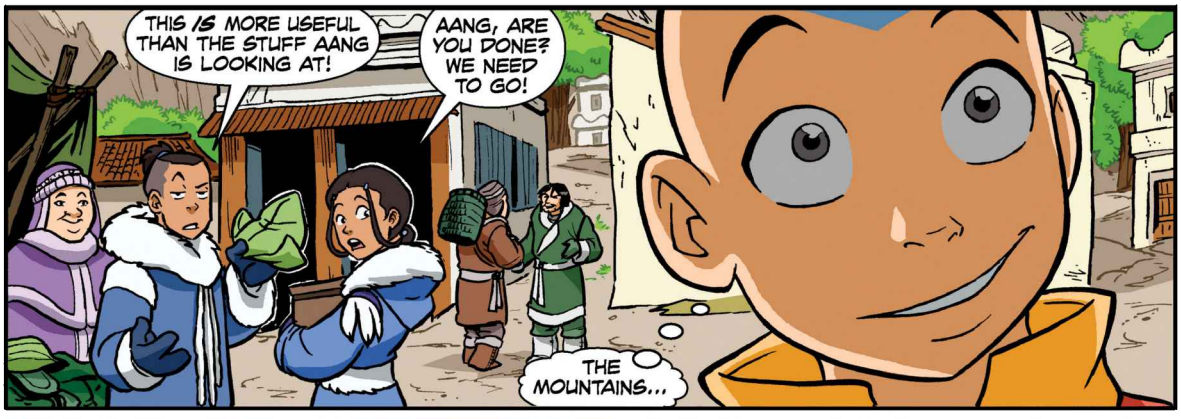
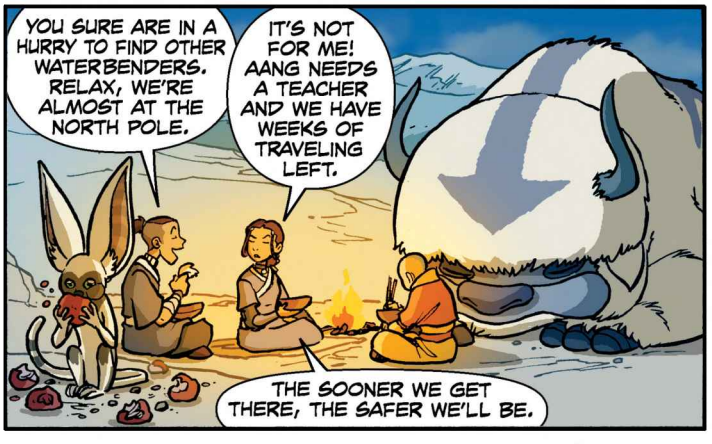

降妖神通
AVATAR
THE LAST AIRBENDER
RELICS
EARLY IN THE AVATAR'S ADVENTURES...
COME ON, SOKKA!
MAKE UP YOUR MIND. WE'VE WASTED ENOUGH TIME HERE. WE HAVE TO BE ON OUR WAY TO THE NORTHERN WATER TRIBE!
Story and Art: Johane Matte.
Colors: Hye Jung Kim. Lettering: Comicraft.
I COULD USE ONE OF THESE.
NECESSARY SUPPLIES, SOKKA!
FINE AND RARE ITEMS! HAVE A LOOK!
LOOK, MOMO.
AN ANCIENT AIRBENDER PENDANT.
ANCIENT? A MAN TRADED IT FOR MEDICINAL HERBS TWO DAYS AGO.
DID HE TELL YOU WHERE HE GOT IT? DID HE HAVE MORE?
WHAT DID HE LOOK LIKE? DID HE SAY WHERE HE'S FROM?

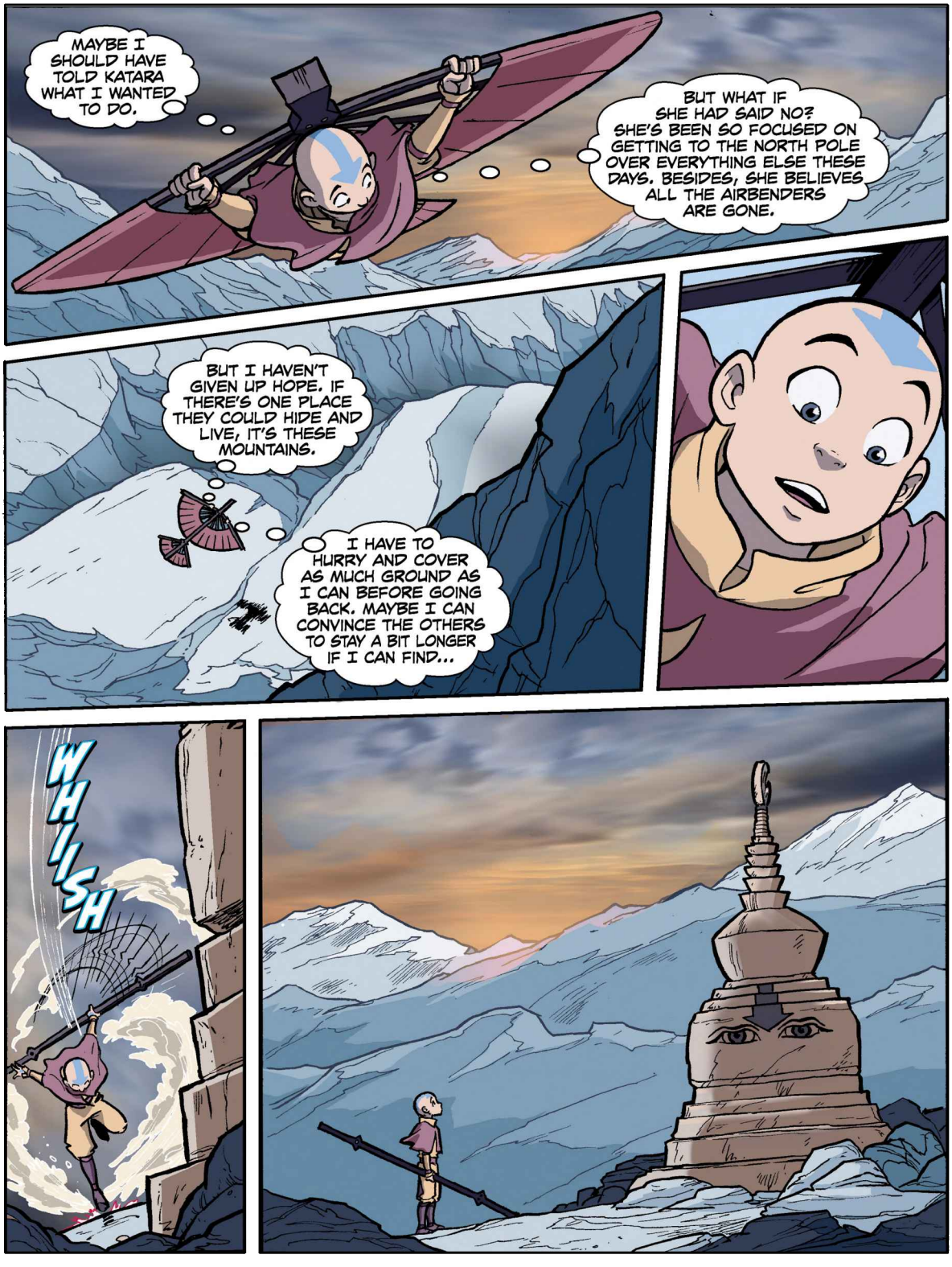

HE CAME FROM THE HIGH MOUNTAIN. PROBABLY A TRAVELER WHO GOT LOST.
NO ONE FROM THE NEARBY VILLAGES WOULD GO THERE. THE MOUNTAIN IS SACRED, FULL OF FLYING SPIRITS.


THIS *IS* MORE USEFUL THAN THE STUFF AANG IS LOOKING AT!
AANG, ARE YOU DONE? WE NEED TO GO!
THE MOUNTAINS...


YOU SURE ARE IN A HURRY TO FIND OTHER WATERBENDERS. RELAX, WE'RE ALMOST AT THE NORTH POLE.
IT'S NOT FOR ME! AANG NEEDS A TEACHER AND WE HAVE WEEKS OF TRAVELING LEFT.
THE SOONER WE GET THERE, THE SAFER WE'LL BE.

DO YOU NEED A BLANKET?
NO, I'M OKAY.
WELL... GOOD NIGHT!
G'NIGHT.

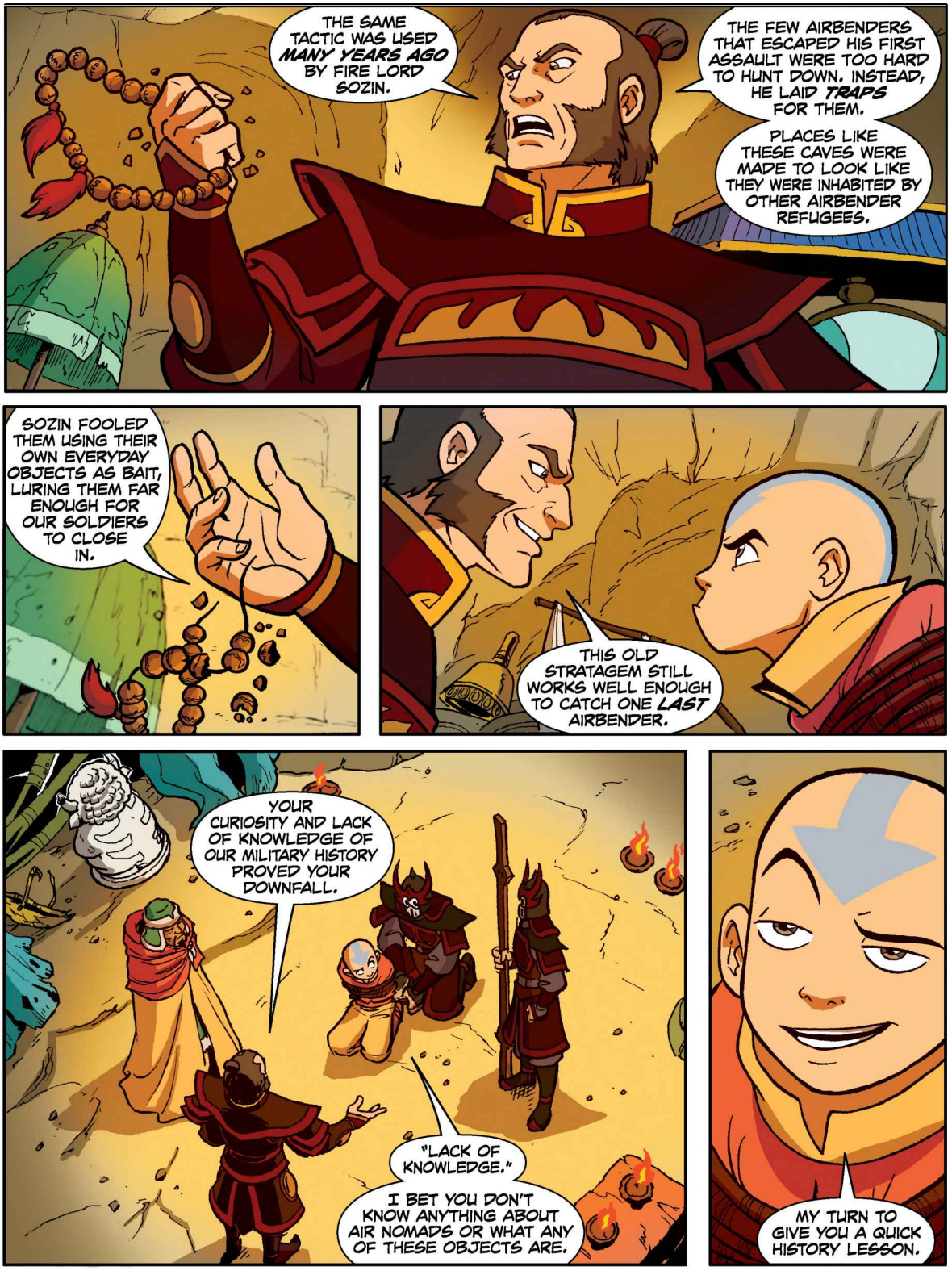
I'M SORRY, KATARA. I HAVE TO LOOK INTO THIS.
I'LL BE BACK BEFORE YOU NOTICE I'M GONE.


MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE TOLD KATARA WHAT I WANTED TO DO.
BUT WHAT IF SHE HAD SAID NO? SHE'S BEEN SO FOCUSED ON GETTING TO THE NORTH POLE OVER EVERYTHING ELSE THESE DAYS. BESIDES, SHE BELIEVES ALL THE AIRBENDERS ARE GONE.
BUT I HAVEN'T GIVEN UP HOPE. IF THERE'S ONE PLACE THEY COULD HIDE AND LIVE, IT'S THESE MOUNTAINS.
I HAVE TO HURRY AND COVER AS MUCH GROUND AS I CAN BEFORE GOING BACK. MAYBE I CAN CONVINCE THE OTHERS TO STAY A BIT LONGER IF I CAN FIND...
WHIISH

A STUPA!
AIRBENDERS *WERE* HERE!
THOSE CAVES LOOK MAN MADE...
...AND THERE'S LIGHT DOWN THERE!
THAT MEANS SOMEONE'S DOWN THERE NOW!
WOW! THIS PLACE IS FULL OF AIRBENDER STUFF!

HELLO?
ERM... EXCUSE ME? ARE YOU...
I MEAN, DO YOU LIVE HERE? DO ALL THESE THINGS BELONG TO YOU?
WHAT!? THE MERCHANT??
NOW! GET HIM!

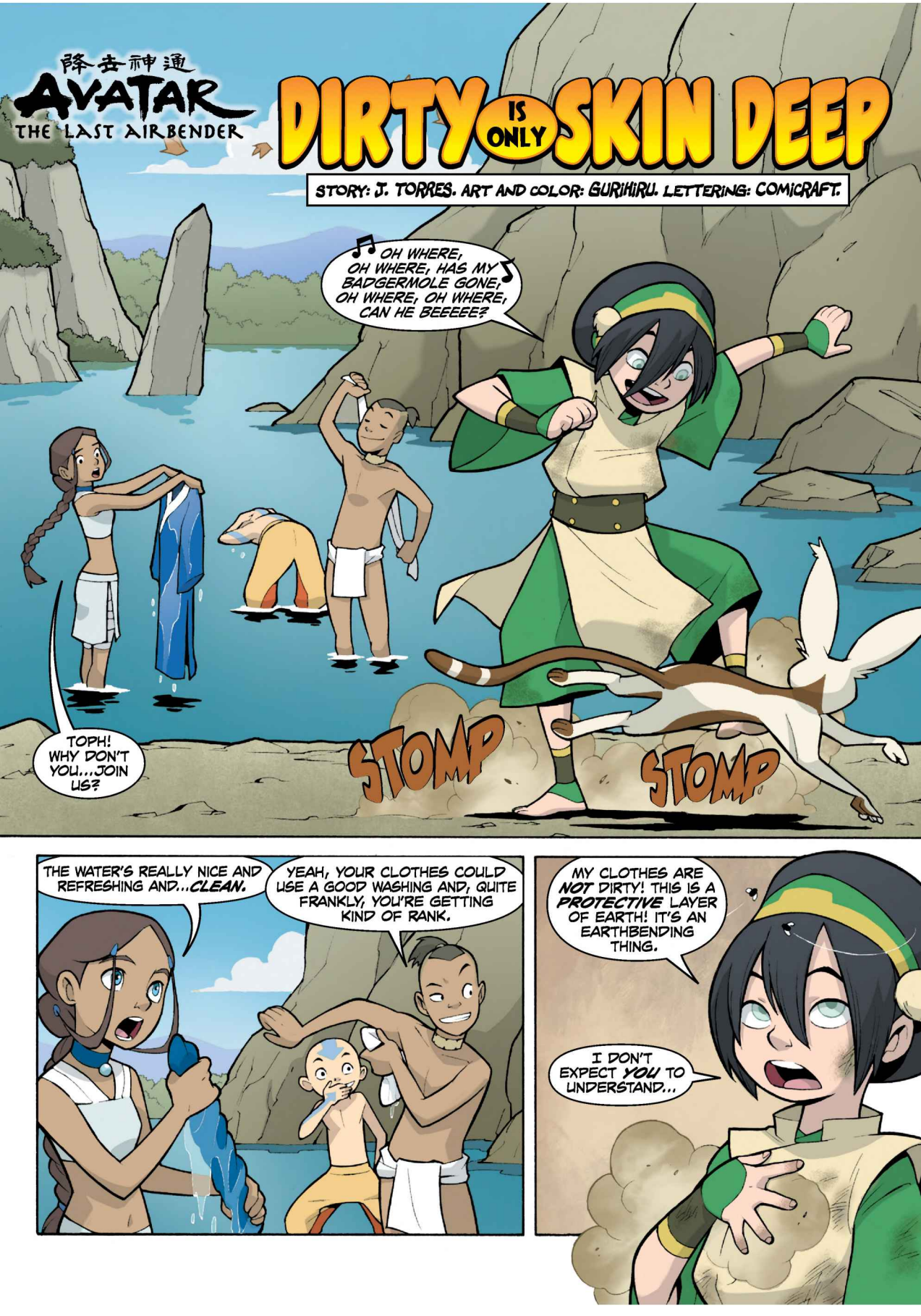
MAKE SURE HE'S BOUND UP TIGHTLY. WE WOULDN'T WANT HIM ESCAPING AGAIN.
ZHAO. YOU'RE A BIT FAR AWAY FROM THE SEA FOR AN ADMIRAL.
ONE DOESN'T CATCH PHEASANT-SQUIRRELS BY STAYING ON A BOAT.
YOU HUNT THEM WHERE THEY *LIVE*.
I'VE DONE MY PART. YOU SAID I COULD HAVE ALL THE AIRBENDERS' RELICS AS PAYMENT.
TAKE AS MUCH OF THAT JUNK AS YOU CAN CARRY. I DON'T NEED ANY OF IT ANYMORE.
THEY SERVED THEIR PURPOSE-- TO LEAD A CURIOUS AVATAR RIGHT WHERE I WANTED.


THE SAME TACTIC WAS USED MANY YEARS AGO BY FIRE LORD SOZIN.
THE FEW AIRBENDERS THAT ESCAPED HIS FIRST ASSAULT WERE TOO HARD TO HUNT DOWN. INSTEAD, HE LAID TRAPS FOR THEM.
PLACES LIKE THESE CAVES WERE MADE TO LOOK LIKE THEY WERE INHABITED BY OTHER AIRBENDER REFUGEES.
SOZIN FOOLED THEM USING THEIR OWN EVERYDAY OBJECTS AS BAIT, LURING THEM FAR ENOUGH FOR OUR SOLDIERS TO CLOSE IN.
THIS OLD STRATAGEM STILL WORKS WELL ENOUGH TO CATCH ONE LAST AIRBENDER.
YOUR CURIOSITY AND LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF OUR MILITARY HISTORY PROVED YOUR DOWNFALL.
"LACK OF KNOWLEDGE."
I BET YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT AIR NOMADS OR WHAT ANY OF THESE OBJECTS ARE.
MY TURN TO GIVE YOU A QUICK HISTORY LESSON.

IDIOTS! HOLD HIM!!
FOOSH
SNAP
EVER HEARD ONE OF THESE HORNS...
...WHEN AN AIRBENDER PLAYS IT?
BWOOOOOOOOOOOO!

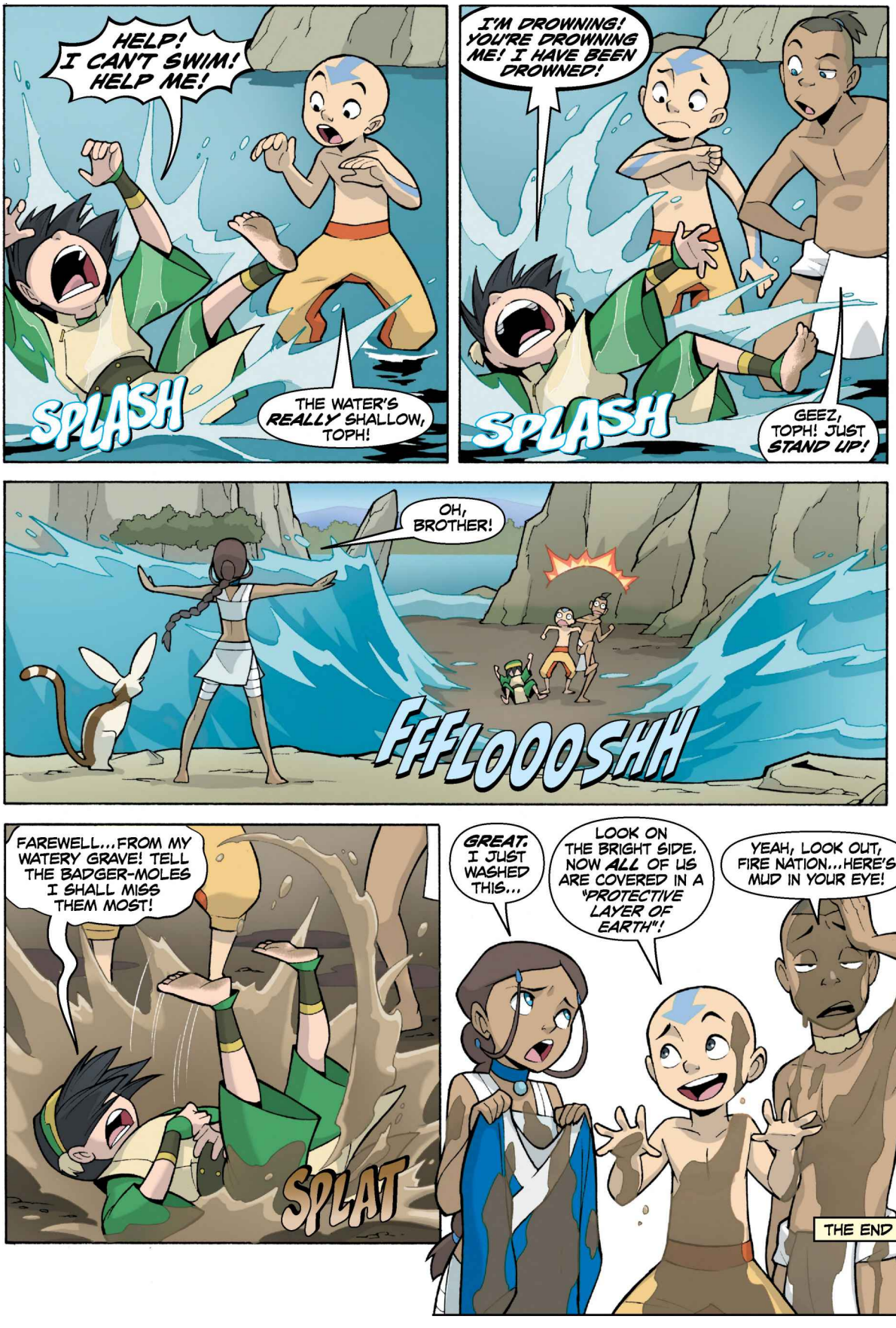
ENOUGH!
I'LL BRING YOUR CHARRED REMAINS TO THE FIRE LORD!
HEY, ZHAO! EVER SEEN ONE OF THESE?
CURIOUS TO FIND OUT WHAT IT CAN DO?
WUUUUU
THE DORJE WAS USED IN RITUALS, BUT MY FRIENDS AND I FOUND OUT THAT IF YOU SPUN THEM TOO HARD INSIDE A ROOM, THIS WOULD HAPPEN!
GNAP!
GOTTA GO!
DON'T WORRY, IT WILL SCHTOP BY ITSHELF!
DID YOU KNOW THAT POT ON YOUR HEAD IS A GENUINE AIRBENDER'S C...
SHUT UP.

CAREFUL, KATARA!
IF AANG HAS DISAPPEARED, THAT COULD MEAN WE'RE SURROUNDED BY FIRE NATION FORCES! WELL-HIDDEN FIRE NATION SOLDIERS, WAITING TO AMBUSH US WHEN OUR BACKS ARE TURNED AND...
THERE HE IS!
AANG?
SEE? HE'S OKAY. YOU WORRY TOO MUCH.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE? WE WERE LOOKING FOR YOU.
WAIT, I THINK I KNOW.
THIS PLACE REMINDS YOU OF HOME, RIGHT? ALL THESE MOUNTAINS...AIRBENDERS WOULD HAVE LOVED TO STAY HERE.
THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN ATTRACTED TO THE PLACE.
YEAH.
A FEW OF THEM PROBABLY WERE.
THE END


降妖神通
AVATAR
THE LAST AIRBENDER
DIRTY IS ONLY SKIN DEEP
STORY: J. TORRES. ART AND COLOR: GURIHIRU. LETTERING: COMICRAFT.
OH WHERE, OH WHERE, HAS MY BADGERMOLE GONE, OH WHERE, OH WHERE, CAN HE BEEEEE?
TOPH! WHY DON'T YOU...JOIN US?
STOMP
STOMP
THE WATER'S REALLY NICE AND REFRESHING AND...CLEAN.
YEAH, YOUR CLOTHES COULD USE A GOOD WASHING AND, QUITE FRANKLY, YOU'RE GETTING KIND OF RANK.
MY CLOTHES ARE NOT DIRTY! THIS IS A PROTECTIVE LAYER OF EARTH! IT'S AN EARTHBENDING THING.
I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO UNDERSTAND...

AND I SUPPOSE YOUR STINK IS MEANT TO REPEL THE ENEMY TOO?
HEH-HEH. IT'S GETTING HOT OUT HERE. WHY DON'T WE ALL JUST COOL OFF?
SPLISH SPLISH
COME ON, TOPH, I'LL WASH YOUR HAIR FOR YOU...
I DON'T WANT TO TAKE A BATH! LET GO OF MY ARM OR ELSE I'LL...
KRRRUNK
OOF!
OH...SO, YOU WANNA PLAY DIRTY, HUH?

IF YOU WON'T COME TO THE WATER, THEN MAYBE I SHOULD BRING THE WATER TO YOU!
HEY! PUT ME DOWN!
WHOOOSH
IF YOU SAY SO...
WHOAAA!
SPLASH
KRRSSHHHH
OKAY, THAT WAS KIND OF FUNNY. AND ALSO A BIT MEAN.
BUT MOSTLY FUNNY.


HELP! I CAN'T SWIM! HELP ME!
SPLASH
THE WATER'S REALLY SHALLOW, TOPH!
I'M DROWNING! YOU'RE DROWNING ME! I HAVE BEEN DROWNED!
SPLASH
GEEZ, TOPH! JUST STAND UP!
OH, BROTHER!
FFFLOOOSHH
FAREWELL...FROM MY WATERY GRAVE! TELL THE BADGER-MOLES I SHALL MISS THEM MOST!
SPLAT
GREAT. I JUST WASHED THIS...
LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE. NOW ALL OF US ARE COVERED IN A "PROTECTIVE LAYER OF EARTH"!
YEAH, LOOK OUT, FIRE NATION...HERE'S MUD IN YOUR EYE!
THE END